

Proposal Abstract

Applicant: Clark Fork Coalition

Project Title: Milltown Sediment Removal

This is a multi-year project application for additional removal of sediments in coordination with the remedial and restoration actions taking place at the Milltown Reservoir Sediments site. The total costs for the project are \$2,794,330, with \$1,253,285 in year 1, and \$1,541,045 in year 2.

EPA has determined that the vast majority of the ground and surface water contamination at Milltown is coming from the 2.6 million cubic yards of sediment in the lower reservoir, just above the dam, but they are not requiring removal of all these contaminated sediments. The remedial action will leave approximately 360,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediments in place just upstream of the dam in the existing Clark Fork channel. These sediments, known as Sediment Accumulation Area III-b (SAAIII-b), are contaminated with arsenic and copper at levels comparable to the sediments being removed in the reservoir area, and they have come from the same source; the downstream transport of mining and smelting wastes from Butte and Anaconda. Under the final agreement between EPA, ARCO, Northwestern and the State of Montana, these sediments would be left in place as an armored, long-term waste repository outside, but adjacent to, the 100-year floodplain at the confluence of the Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers.

The State's restoration plan immediately upstream of the remedial project area proposes to excavate a wedge of the existing floodplain as a transition between the excavation in the remedial area downstream and the natural floodplain upstream. The sediment from this excavation would have been used within the remediation and restoration areas for re-grading of channel, floodplain and terrace features. However, in SAA IV and V immediately upstream of the remedial project area, the State's contractors discovered higher than expected concentrations of metals and arsenic in approximately 200,000 cubic yards of sediment within the floodplain of the Clark Fork River. It is advisable that this material be removed from the 100-year floodplain, rather than re-used within the floodplain as was the original plan.

The goals of this project are:

1. Restoration of aquatic resources and riparian habitat through removal of 360,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment adjacent to the floodplain of the Clark Fork River in SAA III-b.
2. Restoration of aquatic resources and riparian habitat through removal of 200,000 cubic yards of contaminated sediment in the floodplain of the Clark Fork River above the remedial project area (portions of SAA IV and V).

The benefits of this proposal fall under the NRD restoration category. Removing the additional sediment would restore aquatic resources and riparian habitat by allowing the development of additional wetlands at the confluence, and would allow restoration of a naturally functioning river channel following removal of the Milltown Dam. Removal would prevent the possibility of residual contamination of aquatic resources downstream from sediments left in place. Groundwater resources would also potentially benefit in the area of Bonner and Milltown with the additional sediment removal, since these sediments may be a source of groundwater contamination. Recreational services would be restored since the land use restrictions that would apply to the on-site SAA III-b repository would not be required.

PROJECT BUDGET SUMMARY FORM (All Years)										
EXPENSE CATEGORY			UCFRB RESTORATION FUND	APPLICANT CONTRIBUTION			OUTSIDE SOURCES			TOTAL
				Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	Cash	In-Kind	Subtotal	
1	YEAR 1	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$1,730.00							\$1,730.00
	YEAR 2	SALARIES AND WAGES	\$1,730.00							\$1,730.00
	SALARIES AND WAGES SUBTOTAL		\$3,460.00							\$3,460.00
2	YEAR 1	FRINGE BENEFITS	\$755.00							\$755.00
	YEAR 2	FRINGE BENEFITS	\$755.00							\$755.00
	FRINGE BENEFITS SUBTOTAL		\$1,510.00							\$1,510.00
3	YEAR 1	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$1,250,800.00							\$1,250,800.00
	YEAR 2	CONTRACTED SERVICES	\$1,538,560.00							\$1,538,560.00
	CONTRACTED SERVICES SUBTOTAL		\$2,789,360.00							\$2,789,360.00
4	YEAR 1	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS								
	YEAR 2	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS								
	SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS SUBTOTAL									
5	YEAR 1	COMMUNICATIONS								
	YEAR 2	COMMUNICATIONS								
	COMMUNICATIONS SUBTOTAL									
6	YEAR 1	TRAVEL								
	YEAR 2	TRAVEL								
	TRAVEL SUBTOTAL									
7	YEAR 1	RENT AND UTILITIES								
	YEAR 2	RENT AND UTILITIES								
	RENT AND UTILITIES SUBTOTAL									
8	YEAR 1	EQUIPMENT								
	YEAR 2	EQUIPMENT								
	EQUIPMENT SUBTOTAL									
9	YEAR 1	MISCELLANEOUS								
	YEAR 2	MISCELLANEOUS								
	MISCELLANEOUS SUBTOTAL									
YEAR 1 TOTAL			\$1,253,285.00							\$1,253,285.00
YEAR 2 TOTAL			\$1,541,045.00							\$1,541,045.00
ALL YEAR TOTAL			\$2,794,330.00							\$2,794,330.00

In electronic form this spreadsheet will automatically calculate the expense totals from the following Budget Detail Form.